

HOUSE BILL 82  
By Dunn

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55,  
Chapter 8, relative to transportation safety.

WHEREAS, objects which are not properly secured can become loose and fall from a motor vehicle, thus becoming a hazard to other motorists; and

WHEREAS, under present law, cargoes are not specifically required to be secured while the motor vehicle is in motion; and

WHEREAS, the safety of all motorists would be enhanced if cargoes were maintained so as to prevent them from being abruptly discharged upon the highways of the state; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 8, Part 1, is amended by adding a new section thereto, as follows:

Section 55-8-194.

(a) It is an offense for any person to transport any object, material, or animal in a motor vehicle unless such object, material or animal is secured or placed in such a manner as a reasonable person would not expect it to exit the vehicle and cause property damage or personal injury.

(b) A person who violates this section commits a Class C misdemeanor. There shall be no punishment for a first offense, but a person who violates this section shall receive a verbal or written warning. Upon a second or subsequent offense within three (3) years of an offense under this section, a violator shall be subject to a fine of no more than fifty dollars (\$50.00). No court costs shall be assessed for a violation of this section.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.